

Message Text

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SUBJECT: EXCHANGE MATTERS--MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY'S VIEWS

REF: (A) MOSCOW 1167, (B) MOSCOW 4683

1. SUMMARY: MGU PRORECTOR TROPIN EXPRESSED VIEWS ON EXCHANGE PROGRAM DURING FAREWELL CALL BY CAO. TROPIN CALLED FOR SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT OF CIES ROLE IN LECTURER EXCHANGE. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPARTING CAO NOAH AND HIS SUCCESSOR MARILYN JOHNSON, ACCCOMPANIED BY ACAO/EXCHANGES, CALLED ON MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY PRORECTOR TROPIN JULY 8. MIKOLAI SIVACHEV, PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND HEAD OF MGU'S AMERICANISTICS COUNCIL, ALSO PARTICIPATED IM MEETING WHICH WAS WARM AND FRIENDLY. TROPIN EXPRESSED MGU'S GRATITUDE TO CAO FOR HIS EFFORTS TO FURTHER EXCHANGES, WITH WHICH TROPIN SAID MGU WAS GENERALLY SATISFIED, AND ESPECIALLY FOR ASSISTING IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIRECT TIES BETWEEN MGU AND SUNY AND MUCIA, WHICH TROPIN SAID HE FELT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT EMBASSY'S SUPPORT.

3. TROPIN AND SIVACHEV WENT ON TO EXPLAIN IN SOME DETAIL WHAT THEY MEANT BY GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH EXCHANGES, BEING CAREFUL TO POINT OUT THAT THEY DID NOT HOLD EMBASSY RESPONSIBLE FOR TWO PROBLEM AREAS. TROPIN SAID MGU CONTINUED TO BE DISSATISFIED WITH SMALL NUMBER OF YOUNG SCHOLARS IT WAS ABLE TO SEND TO US ON GS/YF UNCLASSIFIED

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EXCHANGES, WHICH HE FELT WAS TOTALLY OUT OF PROPORTION TO NUMBER

OF AMERICANS MGU RECEIVES.

4. TROPIN AND SIVACHEV THEN TURNED TO LECTURER EXCHANGE AND REPEATED THEIR EARLIER-EXPRESSED STATEMENTS OF APPRECIATION FOR EXCHANGE AND THEIR WISH TO MAKE PLACEMENT OF LECTURER IN AMERICAN HISTORY AT MGU ANNUAL ONE. (SEE MOSCOW 4683) TO MAXIMIZE BENEFITS OF EXCHANGE, HOWEVER, THEY SAID SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED IN PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTING, NOMINATING, AND PLACING SCHOLARS. AS EXAMPLE, SIVACHEV SAID MGU HISTORY DEPARTMENT NEEDED TO KNOW THIS SUMMER AT LATEST WHO NOMINEE FOR NEXT SPRING WOULD BE TO GIVE DEPARTMENT AMPLE TIME TO CONSIDER WHETHER NOMINEE RESPONDED TO MGU'S NEEDS AND THEN EITHER TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH LECTURER WELL IN ADVANCE OR TO REQUEST AN ALTERNATE IN ANOTHER ASPECT OF HISTORY. TROPIN AND SIVACHEV INQUIRED SPECIFICALLY REGARDING MGU'S NAME REQUESTS IN HISTORY, CONVEYED IN MOSCOW'S 1167. SIVACHEV ALSO POINTED OUT THAT WHILE MGU HAS NOW RECEIVED SEVERAL AMERICAN LECTURERS IN AMERICAN HISTORY, NO US UNIVERSITY HAS AS YET REQUESTED MGU HISTORY DEPT. REP TO LECTURE ON RUSSIAN/SOVIET HISTORY.

5. TROPIN AND SIVACHEV THEN WENT ON TO CONTRAST MGU'S RELATIONS WITH IREX, WHICH THEY DESCRIBED AS EXCELLENT AND BASED ON HIGH DEGREE OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, WITH THEIR ONLY SLIGHT FAMILIARITY WITH CIES. (DEPT WILL RECALL THAT RECTOR KHOKHLOV'S GROUP DID NOT VISIT CIES DURING LAST YEAR'S TRIP TO US.) TROPIN AND SIVACHEV AGAIN EXPRESSED WISH THAT LECTURER EXCHANGE COULD BE RUN BY IREX RATHER THAN CIES.

6. SIVACHEV WILL BE IN US THIS FALL ON IREX EXCHANGE AND WILL BE IN WASHINGTON AREA. PROPOSE DEPT PROVIDE GRANT TO COVER EXPENSES FOR PERIOD OF CONSULTATION WITH CIES ON LECTURER EXCHANGE TO TRY TO OVERCOME THESE SENTIMENTS AT MGU. AS HEAD OF AMERICANISTICS COUNCIL AT MGU AND CLOSE PERSONAL ADVISOR TO RECTOR, SIVACHEV IS CLEARLY IN POSITION TO EXPLAIN IN DETAIL MGU'S LECTURER NEEDS IN AMERICAN STUDIES OVER NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. IF DEPT CONCURS IN GRANT SUGGESTION, EMB PROPOSES TO SEND LETTER TO TROPIN PROPOSING THAT SIVACHEV CONSULT WITH CIES AND ASKING HIM TO SUGGEST DATES. ADVISE.

7. ALSO REQUEST SOONEST REVIEW OF AMERICAN LECTURERS
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RECRUITED THUS FAR FOR SOVIET UNIVERSITIES, ESPECIALLY MGU, FOR NEXT YEAR.

8. ADDITIONAL PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO PRESENT SPECIAL BICENTENNIAL COLLECTION OF FIFTY TITLES ON AMERICAN HISTORY TO SIVACHEV FOR MGU'S NEW AMERICANISTICS CENTER.

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